

APPENDIX D

NH OUTDOORS, 2008-2013

Public Advisory Committee Review of Recommendations

Meeting
Friday, December 15, 2006

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Department of Revenue Administration Conference Room
57 Regional Drive
Concord, NH 03301

AND

**Review of the Recommendation
by the Public Advisory Committee
via an Electronic Survey
(administered by UNH)**

NH Outdoors 2008 – 2013
State Advisory Committee Forum, December 15, 2006

8:45 Registration and Coffee

9:00 Welcome, Introductions, Objectives, and Review of Last SCORP

9:45 Large Group Discussion:

-----Facilitator Instructions for Breakout Sessions-----

9:55 Introductions & Sign-in Sheet

- Have each person give their name and tell something about them.
- Go over ground rules (from newsprint).

10:05 Background of SCORP (2003-2007):

- One of the important components of the state recreation plan will be to identify and prioritize outdoor recreation issues in the state. Your input will help to frame the content of New Hampshire's plan and provide guidance and direction in addressing a range of important recreation-related issues. The following questions were designed with the above needs in mind:

10:15 Are each of the goals and its objectives still relevant?

10:30 What has been accomplished for each strategy?

10:45 Who should we contact to get more complete information about each strategy?

11:00 Are there any strategies that are irrelevant?

11:15 What new strategies do you think should be considered?

12:00 Wrap-up and Adjourn

- What's next
- Timeline for SCORP 2008-2013
- Email Stakeholder Survey and Recreation Leaders Survey

NOTES FROM DECEMBER 15TH MEETING

Recommendation: Stewardship of the Natural Resource Base for Outdoor Recreation

GOAL: Ensure that the quality and quantity of the natural resource base is maintained or enhanced as recreation pressures increase.

Objective 1: Continue to support efforts to identify and protect open space lands.

- goal is relevant
- more aggressive/protecting open space
- educating the public
- WAP/environmental analysis
- CELCP
- contact CLACA for plans
- keep it general
- consolidate databases

Objective 2:

- traffic impact from promotion of recreation sports
- have baseline of critical habitats
- need to encourage low-impact recreation
- fee based recreation is what is encouraged
- care need in defining low and high impact
- intensity of use is a factor
- wildlife habitat impact

Objective 3:

- plans need to be updated
- information and education for stewards, land owners and users
- put Cooperative Extension on resource list
- fill the gap of LCHIP and other funding programs
- NHRPA, Forest & Lands, National Heritage, and AMC as resources

Recommendation: Providing Different, Sometimes Competing, Recreational Opportunities

GOAL: Ensure that a variety of recreational opportunities are provided, even as pressures and potential conflict may arise.

Objective 1:

- goal relevant
- objectives
- maintain and support level/quality of or protect opportunities – may mean moving location
- strategy – to not sacrifice existing opportunities
- evaluate existing – protect existing
- BMP's role for DES – know what BMP's are

- emphasis on local, or stewardship or both
- encourage stewardship of recreation areas and facilities at local level
- protect and improve
- tied to re-evaluation of existing high quality standards for existing
- legislature and SB5 Commission – has happened
- do provide BMP's
- ongoing public water access
- ATV park in Berlin
- Bureau of Trails – maintain/protect

Objective 2:

- town parks and recreation
- sample survey of outdoor recreation
- lack of local funds for matching and accomplishing projects
- emphasize recreation needs to towns as a civic responsibility

Objective 3:

- encourage keeping private land open to public
- new program: land owners relations program at Fish & Game
- Fish & Game provides limited access
- Landowner Incentive Program at Fish & Game
- conservation programs require public access
- should have more flexible terms for landowners to provide
- promote cooperative between agencies
- enforcement taxes money – funding needs to be permanent – not fee based

Objective 4:

- enforcement of existing laws relating to use of land (hunting, ATV's)
- money/lack of funds
- add DRED and Fish & Game--have accessibility on the web (DONE)
- coastal program updating public access map for coastal region
- website with links to recreation organizations (contact information other than website)
- different organizations are responsible for compiling information
- STAC – statewide trails advisory committee

Objective 5:

- available to those with disabilities
- architectural barrier-free committee looking at preparing a guidebook – mostly web based
- N.E. Passage (UNH)

Recommendation: Education of Recreational Users, Municipalities and Landowners about Responsible Behavior, Laws, and Liability

Goal: Improve and increase educational opportunities and outreach targeted to both recreation providers and recreational users.

Objective 1:

- educate landowners

Objective 2:

- expand educational programs
- STAC re: trails
- there has been a decrease/less funding for education – negative process
- web use increases, however, but is this education
- NH Mushers – new
- NH Horse Council – more active
- greater need now also – more people need education
- much information available
- coordinate web educational

Objective 3:

- objective wording - educate municipal on their liability issues and their municipal right and obligations
- rights and obligations
- contact local government center
- change OSP to OEP

Objective 4:

- minimize the need for enforcement and use restrictions by promoting education based strategies
- same comments as object #3

Recommendation: Apply Limited Financial And Human Resources to Address a Range of Recreation Needs

Goal: Wisely use financial and human resources (e.g. volunteers, partnerships, youth programs, etc.) to meet a wide range of recreational needs.

Objective 1:

- prioritize renovations
- see SB5 Commission recommendations
- applies to state parks – DRED – collects all of this

Objective 2:

- DRED
- give priority to organizations receiving grants

- Fish & Game public access programs

Objective 3:

- continue providing acquisition funding to support local
- demonstrated thru LWCF grants

Objective 4:

- Dollars and Sense of Open Space
- Cooperative Extension Community Profiles
- LCHIP
- need public support
- add to C – local and statewide conservation
- don't concentrate on just statewide
- focus on implementation on statewide and local plans

Objective 5:

- promote collaboration...local recreation projects
- always will be important
- statewide trail would not exist without volunteers
- corporations – like Timberland
- could have higher points/incentives for communities with greater numbers of collaborators or volunteers – helps their match through Coastal Program
- importance of connecting trails, i.e. Quaban to Cardigan Trails
- student conservation association based in Charlestown, NH

Objective 6:

- Fish and Game
- take out the “voluntary”
- legislative initiatives about non-motorized user fees
- work on implementing fees

Recommendation: Impacts of Existing Land Use Patterns on Recreational Opportunities

Goal: Promote growth and development patterns that encourage local recreational opportunities and preserves undeveloped lands for future recreational use.

Objective 1:

- is this any land use change? remove undeveloped
- incorporate outdoor recreation in discussion of Smart Growth
- integrate recreation (rather than incorporate) “remove more fully as an issue”
- transportation bill passed – SAFTE-LU
- Fish and Game

Objective 2:

- strike promote – use encourage
- strike all locals – both of them
- DRED grants

- B-CELCP does strategy B
- strike “fields” and put recreation facilities instead
- “safe routes to school” under G, provided by DOT
- health promotion program

Objective 3:

- educate communities about impact of local, close-to-home recreation opportunities
- create – include social, cultural and quality of life

Recommendation: Importance of Local Outdoor Recreation Opportunities and Open Space Protection in Promoting Increased Health and Wellness

Goal: Promote health/wellness benefits gained from improving recreational opportunities and bicycle and pedestrian linkages in communities.

Objective 1:

- partnerships
- Upper Valley trails alliance
- all of the trail systems
- Safe Routes to School
- Kid Power
- Main Street initiatives, CDBG (make sure recreation is at the table when applying for these grants)
- B- (link/focus) health and wellness
- hospital health promotion programs – Concord & Lakes Region Center for Health Promotion
- bike smart
- Primex and LGC – local government center
- bike rack on buses
- C-promote and encourage – strike investigate
- C - take out statewide

Objective 2:

- increase public awareness of access and opportunities for recreation and physical activity locally

Objective 4:

- new state laws require <16 yrs must wear helmets
- bike
- Safe Routes to School (DOT)
- NH DOT bicycle and pedestrian program
- Dartmouth Hitchcock program
- certified playground inspectors (Primex and local government center)

RECOMMENDATIONS WITH EDITS AND COMMENTS

1. STEWARDSHIP OF THE NATURAL RESOURCE BASE FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION

GOAL: *Insure that the quality and quantity of the natural resource base is maintained or enhanced as recreation pressures increase.*

I. Objective: Continue to support efforts to identify and protect open space lands.

Strategies

- A. **(LWCF)** Give priority to land acquisition efforts focused on natural areas/lands identified in existing local, regional, or state plans (e.g. lands might include forests, wetlands, rare natural communities, coastal areas, agricultural lands, etc.).
- B. Support efforts to secure permanent state funding for LCHIP (e.g. encourage groups to endorse and support Citizens for Land and Community Heritage).
- C. Support efforts to secure continued funding for federal programs (e.g. stateside LWCF funding, Forest Legacy, SAFETEA-LU, EPA Brownfields, Farm Bill etc.).
- D. Support comprehensive statewide, regional and local planning for open space, recreation corridors, and greenways (e.g. State, regional, and local open space plans, trail plans etc.).
- E. Educate the public on plans that currently exist (*UNH Cooperative Extension*, NH Living Legacy Project, Hanover Open Space Plan, etc.).
- F. Expand efforts to fund conservation for outdoor recreation at the local level (e.g. encourage communities to consider open space bonds and/or earmarking all or a portion of the local land use change tax for conservation purposes).
- G. Encourage state, regional, and municipal partnerships with non-profits and land trusts to acquire and protect locally significant open space lands (e.g. New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions, Center for Land Conservation Assistance).
- H. Target specific purchases in areas of the state where the fastest growth and usage is taking place (e.g. protect lands near areas experiencing increased development pressure to protect open space lands and recreational opportunities close to home).
- I. Target purchases that protect hydrological units or create or link large contiguous blocks of lands for wildlife and people.
- J. Support efforts to protect scenic views (e.g. encourage and give incentives to landowners to keep fields mowed. Examples might include the NH Fish and Game small grants programs for wildlife or establishing incentives through existing programs like Current Use).

Progress

- Teaming with Life Coalition – F&G
- Forest Legacy – Division of Forests and Lands
- The Seacoast has been very Successful in attracting federal funding for land protection.
- I believe SPNHF does a good job
- *Wildlife Action Plan* training for conservation commissions and community planners.
- Noting that in the last six years over \$130 million in local funds have been appropriated for land protection, I think efforts are paying off.
- Many organizations are now sponsoring workshops to educate land use decision makers and the general public regarding the value, need, and responsibility to protect open spaces.
- The NH Estuaries Program has a grant to provide technical assistance to municipalities.

Comments:

- Goal is still relevant
- The “Wildlife Action Plan” was completed in 2005. It lays the groundwork for many of the recommendations that promote land use planning and preservation. It also affords the opportunities for the continuous contributions to the database that will provide greater prospects for mindful preservation and development that will balance preservation of natural resources and the needs of the public and provide for a better quality of life.
- There are numerous databases with similar information. An organization such as the Office of Energy and Planning should be assigned the task of compiling them so that information regarding our resources can be accessed in one place.
- Low impact recreation can be just as deleterious to the natural environment as high impact based on site, intensity of use or time of year. For instance, reckless hiking in alpine areas.
- Stewardship is a critical component. Management plans need to be developed for areas already under protection.
- Information and education are almost more important than preservation.
- Land preservation has to happen with grass roots effort. The *Wildlife Action Plan* has to be brought to the grassroots so that preservation is done with awareness of critical natural resource areas rather than simply what is available.
- NHRPA members continue to lobby for LWCF and TE funding through their legislative committee and through their national organization. NHRAP sends members to Washington D.C. as part of NRPA Legislative Forum to lobby for these efforts.
- There are a lot of organizations and agencies involved in planning and, thankfully, a lot of cooperation amongst them. Statewide NGO efforts are led by SPNHF, TNC, and Audubon. Educational efforts are led by UNH Cooperative Extension’s CCAP. The Regional Planning Commissions have been devoting more attention to natural resources. The local land trusts are beacons of planning in their local areas (a few examples are the Piscataquiog River Association, the Harris Center, Monadnock Conservancy, but they aren’t alone). The Center for Land Conservation housed at SPNHF is a valuable resource. So many towns have undertaken natural resource inventories to inform their conservation efforts. With regards to planning – it is so bright you have to wear shades. Natural Resources Outreach Coalition on the coast is a very dynamic example of partnerships for planning and education.
- I don’t see DRED as an active player in this realm. I go to meetings with DES, F&G and occasionally OEP, but DRED is absent. I do see the Natural Heritage Bureau at some but not Forests and Lands or Parks. They should be involved.
- Recreation does not often come up as a reason for protection and preservation of open space. In many cases there are concerns regarding landowner liabilities and disturbing wildlife habitat.
- These programs are very effective in involving the public at the hands-on level. However, participation (as a percentage) is relatively small.

II. Objective: Address environmental and cultural resource impacts from existing recreational facilities and when new recreation facilities/opportunities are developed.

Strategies

- A. (LWCF) Give priority to projects that help redistribute recreational use away from ecologically sensitive areas.
- B. Address impacts to important resources such as wildlife, water quality, rare or endangered species, cultural/historic resources, and sensitive areas when planning and designing trails/facilities and coordinate with affected agencies early in the planning process (e.g. coordinate efforts with NH Natural Heritage Inventory, Division of Historical Resources, etc.).
- C. Evaluate the role tourism and outdoor recreation marketing and development play in creating both positive and negative environmental and cultural resource impacts. (*e.g. Institute for New Hampshire Studies, UNH Cooperative Extension, Northern Forest Center, etc.*)

- D. Expand coordinated state review efforts of new development plans on state lands (e.g. State Land Management Team).
- E. Continue existing programs focused on resource protection (e.g. Volunteer Lake Assessment Program, Lakes Lay Monitoring Program, DES Exotic Species Program, NH Living Legacy Project, State Conservation & Rescue Archaeology Program, etc.).
- F. Expand partnerships and initiatives aimed at promoting the use of recreational equipment that utilize cleaner, more environmentally friendly technologies (e.g. NH Clean Marine Initiative).

Comments

- Need to encourage low-impact recreation
- Care is needed in defining low and high impact recreation
 - Intensity of use is a factor
 - Wildlife habitat impact is a factor
- A concern needs to be the impact on resources from all traffic, non-motorized as well as motorized
- The *Wildlife Action Plan* gives us a baseline on critical habitats.
- Fee based recreation is what should be encouraged.
- We are selling “wild” New Hampshire, with peaceful, scenic views. However, we are unwilling to regulate impacts that threaten this “wild” New Hampshire, i.e., unregulated boat speed and size on our inland public waters.
- I think the negative aspects of tourism are too often overlooked- specifically – increased traffic (impact quality of life and air quality) and the encouragement of sprawl.
- We want public access to conservation lands for purpose of recreation, but do not want to exceed a sustainable carrying capacity.
- SPNHF is doing some good work in this area.
- There are not very many state lands in the seacoast area.
- Regarding environmentally friendly equipment: I don’t see cleaner technologies. I see and hear bigger, louder and stinkier recreational equipment. As a woods walker, this is hard use of the land and impedes my recreational experience.

III. Objective: Address long-term stewardship issues on existing parcels and when parcels are protected or developed.

Strategies:

- A. (LWCF) Give priority to projects that have a prepared stewardship plan in place.
- B. Continue to address enforcement and enforceability of existing environmental laws (e.g. support increased enforcement by State agencies and examine existing limitations given current staff and funding levels).
- C. Encourage and assist landowners in preparing stewardship plans on existing parcels.
- D. Emphasize the importance of stewardship when lands are protected by the state, municipalities and other organizations (e.g. LCHIP requires a stewardship plan to be developed in order to receive grant funding for fee-owned lands and easements.).
- E. Utilize and promote technical assistance programs for providing consultation when parcels are protected (e.g. Center for Land Conservation Assistance, local land trusts, NH Coalition for Sustaining Agriculture, OEP).
- F. Develop partnerships with recreational user groups to steward lands.
- G. Improve information and educational efforts aimed at addressing stewardship concerns and issues faced by both public and private entities.

Progress

- There have been numerous projects to identify lands targeted for protection in the Seacoast area. The best and most recent example is “The Land Conservation Plan for New Hampshire’s Coastal Watershed.” We know the sensitive areas; we now need to focus on protection.
- Protecting scenic views: Landowner Incentive Program – NH F&G Charles Bridges.
- New Hampshire Lakes Association is moving toward working with individuals, local municipalities and organizations to help provide a local stewardship approach to planning and resource protection. They have a new education outreach director who will work locally.
- A Forest Legacy requires a Forest Stewardship plan. Few other programs do. Easement holders monitor land for violations of the easement and usually call this stewardship, but this is really enforcement of the easement. More easements have language that requires that owners use management plans and foresters, hopefully to prevent unsustainable practices.
- All of the conservation organizations have serious outreach programs and public Education programs.

Comments

- Plans need to be updated
- Expand information and education programs for stewards, landowners and users
- Nothing is done in NH without partnerships. Some examples: Quabbin to Cardigan, Ashuelot River Plan, Crotchet to Temple, the Supersanctuary. All these show partnership efforts with of course great leadership shown often by one or two organizations or agencies.
- The local land trusts are very active in the Seacoast area in partnering with towns, watershed groups, conservation organizations, etc. in acquiring and managing conservation lands.
- F&G has become a leader in this effort due to the *Wildlife Action Plan*. They understand and value the strength of partnering with other agencies and organizations.
- Little has been done with incentives. Landowners with scenic views are usually very proud of their properties and treat them as such.
- I actually have a comment, but not a rating. This is a mixed bag. For example, the *Wildlife Action Plan* is an excellent example and is already having an impact. I think the natural resource community needs to make stronger ties to those interested in protecting land-based cultural resources (as opposed to architectural resources that are highly important, but beyond the scope of what I think can fruitfully result from such a partnership. By this I mean, both land and buildings need protection and large amount of money to do so. Partnering too close results in neither receiving its due). With regards to water – too often efforts are focused more on increasing public access and though laudable in many cases, in others it doesn’t protect the resource. Lastly, rare species and natural communities have seen increased protection due to the NH Natural Heritage Bureau (NHNHB). However, I think additional protection could be afforded with more effort (money) and with a more liberal approach to using the information by the NHNHB.
- We continue to lease state-owned land, specifically water front property, for a minimal fee (between \$2 to \$25 per linear foot of shorefront). This is public land and should not be developed. It should be protected, as these lands protect already impacted public waters.
- The Living Legacy project is in sleep mode at this time.
- The Division of Forest and Lands have really ramped up their law enforcement capacity. DES (wetlands) has a good staff of over-worked people who don’t have a very enforcement-friendly environment. As near as I can tell there is virtually no enforcement of SATV. I don’t know about others.
- Environmental enforcement by state agencies is very thin. Public awareness and local enforcement is gaining steam.
- There is a lot of effort to educate landowners regarding stewardship in the seacoast area (i.e. septic system maintenance, riparian landowner responsibilities, shoreland protection, impervious surfaces, but progress is slow. People live busy lives, and education programs must compete with other priorities.
- Towns and land trusts are aware of their responsibilities for long term monitoring of conservation easements. There is a problem in acquiring resources to meet these growing responsibilities.

- Re stewardship and user groups: Mixed snowmobilers, excellent; ATV, 4-wheelers – my impression is not much progress here.
- Re stewardship and user groups: Trouts Unlimited, biking clubs, Boy Scouts-yes

SELECTED CONTACTS & INFORMATION SOURCES

- **National Center for Recreation & Conservation** (www.ncrc.nps.gov/)
- **National Park Service, Rivers Trails and Conservation Assistance Program** (www.ncrc.nps.gov/programs/rtca/)
- **Land and Community Heritage Investment Program** (www.lchip.org/)
- **DRED – Division of Parks and Recreation** (www.nhparks.state.nh.us/)
- **New Hampshire Fish and Game Department** (www.wildlife.state.nh.us/)
- **New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services** (www.des.state.nh.us/)
- **Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests** (www.spnhf.org/)
- **The New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions** (www.nhacc.org/nhacc.htm)
- **NHFG Non Game and Endangered Wildlife Program** (www.wildlife.state.nh.us/nongame_page.htm)
- **New Hampshire Natural Heritage Inventory** (www.nhdfi.org/formgt/nhiweb/index.htm)
- **New Hampshire Chapter of the Nature Conservancy** (www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/newhampshire/)
- **Audubon Society of New Hampshire** (www.nhaudubon.org/)
- **New Hampshire Lakes Association** (www.nhlakes.org/)
- **New Hampshire Recreation Planners Association** (www.nhrpa.com)
- **DRED – Division of Forest and Lands** (<http://www.dred.state.nh.us/divisions/forestandlands/>)
- **Appalachian Mountain Club** (<http://www.outdoors.org/>)

2. **PROVIDING DIFFERENT, SOMETIMES COMPETING, RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

GOAL: *Insure that a variety of recreational opportunities are provided, even as pressures and potential conflicts may arise.*

I. Objective: *Support, protect, and maintain* existing outdoor recreation opportunities.

Strategies:

- A. (LWCF) Focus efforts on renovating eroded or deteriorated facilities (e.g. boat ramps, playgrounds, etc.) and recreational areas (e.g. beaches, parks, trails, etc.).
- B. Protect existing access (e.g. water access, trails, trailheads, etc.) and preserve and maintain existing recreational areas (e.g. parks, playfields, etc.).
- C. Work with recreational clubs, ~~and~~ organizations, *and the Department of Environmental Services* to produce and promote best management practices (BMPs) for different recreational uses (e.g. work with different trails groups to develop BMPs for trail development/maintenance).
- D. Encourage ~~local~~ stewardship of recreation areas/facilities *through local initiatives*.

Comments:

- Goal is still relevant
- Maintain and support level/quality of or protect opportunities-may mean moving location
- Don't sacrifice existing opportunities
- Evaluate and protect exiting opportunities
- Use BMP-Know what they are
- Encourage stewardship of recreation areas and facilities at the local level
- Promote stewardship at the local and state level
- Protect and improve existing facilities
- Tied to re-evaluation of existing high quality standards for existing facilities
- Legislation and SB5 has happened
- Bureau of Trails Progress
- Resources: NH F&G website and State Parks on NHRPA website

II. Objective: Support additional recreational opportunities to address existing problems or deficiencies.

Strategies:

- A. (LWCF) Give priority to projects that provide for identified public recreational needs and/or unavailable recreational opportunities.
- B. (LWCF) Give priority to projects that identify and address existing problems with over use or mitigate conflicts of use.
- C. Encourage the State and local communities ~~to determine recreational needs by focusing on desired levels of service~~; *use an opportunity spectrum method to determine recreational needs based on desired levels of service, resource availability and maintenance capacity.*
- D. Educate communities about existing legislation that can promote and designate local recreational opportunities (e.g. Class A and B Trails and 20 percent recreational adjustment under Current Use).

Progress

- *Wildlife Action Plan*
- Trails and DES published a great BMP and trails book.

Comment

- Town parks and recreation

- Sample survey of outdoor recreation
- Lack of local funds for matching and accomplishing projects
- Emphasize recreation needs to towns as a civic responsibility

III. Objective: Encourage keeping private lands open to the public.

Strategies:

- A. Build coalitions between landowners and people who recreate on private lands (e.g. SPACE, NH Timberland Owners Association, State Agencies, trail groups, etc.).
- B. Continue to encourage private landowners to keep their lands open to recreational uses via Current Use and its 20 percent Recreational Adjustment.
- C. Encourage interested landowners to properly sign their property based on acceptable uses (e.g. encourage an organization to provide landowners with signs that post for specific uses. Often landowners can only find (therefore post) generic 'No Trespassing' signs though the intent is to only limit a particular use. Making use-specific signs more readily available will help keep lands from being posted against all public access. Also encourage participation in the NH Fish and Game sign program).
- D. *Better enforcement of laws to support landowners' rights on lands held in easement (e.g. regarding hiking, hunting, snowmobiles, ATVs, etc.).*

Comments

- Encourage keeping private land open to public
- **New program: land owners relations program at Fish and Game**
- Fish and Game provides limited access
- **Landowner Incentive Program at Fish & Game**
- Conservation programs require public access
- Should have more flexible terms for landowners to provide
- Promote cooperation between agencies
- Enforcement money needs to be found –funding needs to be permanent –not fee based
- Landowner Relations Program-F&G
- Generally, I think most recreationists are unaware they are recreation on private lands and don't respect or care that they are visitors to someone's property. I don't think they care to know.

IV. Objective: Promote the use of education and information-based strategies to manage or avoid conflict.

Strategies:

- A. Encourage shared use and cooperation among different recreationists by incorporating educational messages into maps, guides, and public information sources (e.g. NH Fish and Game Public Access Sites map, NH Horse Council brochure, "Share with Care" program, etc.).
- B. Support ongoing public education efforts focused on enforcement of existing recreation-related laws and penalties (e.g. continue mandatory education programs on boating laws, OHRV laws, hunting laws, etc.).
- C. Improve public access to recreational information, especially via the web, to increase awareness of available recreational opportunities statewide (e.g. examine the feasibility of placing OEP's Inventory of Outdoor Recreation Facilities or Public Water Access sites on the web).
- D. Develop a resource directory that provides information about who's responsible on a statewide level for different recreation programs and enforcement.

Comments

- Enforcement of existing laws relating to use of lands (hunting, ATVs, etc.)

- Problem of money/lack of funds
- Add DRED and F&G – the have accessibility on the web (DONE)
- Coastal program updating public access map for coastal region
- Website with links to recreation organizations (contact information other than website)
- Different organizations are responsible for compiling information
- STAC – Statewide Trails Advisory Committee
- Enforcement: We are failing in this and it will result in more people posting their lands.

V. Objective: Insure that recreational opportunities are available to those with disabilities.

Strategies:

- A. Involve persons with disabilities in the planning of new and/or the rehabilitation or modification of existing outdoor recreation facilities and programs (e.g. DOT, Governor’s Commission on Disability, Granite State Independent Living, etc.).
- B. Develop a guidebook to outdoor recreation facilities that provides information for persons with disabilities about accessibility levels.
- C. Provide technical assistance and incentives to recreation providers to improve accessibility of recreational facilities and lands (e.g. US Fish and Wildlife Service enforcement of ADA accessibility, Governor’s Commission on Disability).
- D. Identify funding sources that can be used to improve accessibility and universal design (e.g. SAFETEA-LU, LWCF, etc.).
- E. Work with partners to support and encourage universal design.

Comments:

- Summary comment was to maintain high quality while rounding out opportunities by looking for new prospects for recreational activities;
- Be careful of the word “protect”, it could be applied appropriately to conflicting activities;
- Available to those with disabilities
- Architectural barrier-free committee looking at preparing a guidebook-mostly web based
- N.E. passage (UNH)
- Representation of people informed about ADA requirements on selection boards for grants such as LECF and Transportation Enhancements.
- UNH Woodlands Manager recently completed a project funded by the USDA Forest Service in cooperation with UNH Cooperative Extension to improve the accessibility of the UNH College Woods.
- UNDA in Durham is another contact.

SELECTED CONTACTS & INFORMATION SOURCES

- **DRED – Division of Parks and Recreation** (www.nhparks.state.nh.us/)
- **DRED – Trails Bureau** (www.nhtrails.org) - also provides links to many trail clubs
- **Governor’s Commission on Disability** (www.state.nh.us/disability/index.html)
- **Granite State Independent Living** (www.gsil.org/)
- **New Hampshire Department of Transportation – Bicycle/Pedestrian Program** (www.webster.state.nh.us/dot/public.htm)
- **New Hampshire Fish and Game Department** (www.wildlife.state.nh.us/)
- **New Hampshire Recreation and Park Association** (www.nhrpa.com/)
- **New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning** (www.nh.gov/oep)
- **Regional Planning Commissions** ((www.nh.gov/oep/resourcelibrary/regions.home.htm)
- **White Mountain National Forest** (www.fs.fed.us/r9/white/)
- **Appalachian Mountain Club** (www.outdoors.org/)
- **US Department of Justice – ADA information** (www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm)
- **New Hampshire Recreation Planners Association** (www.nhrpa.com)

3. **APPLY LIMITED FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES TO ADDRESS A RANGE OF RECREATION NEEDS**

GOAL: *Wisely use financial and human resources (e.g. volunteers, partnerships, youth programs, etc.) to meet a wide range of recreational needs.*

- I. Objective:** Prioritize renovation/refurbishment ~~funding~~ of State Park facilities over ~~funding~~ new land acquisition.

Strategies

- A. **(LWCF)** Give priority to projects that have been identified in a State Park master plan or through other planning efforts.
- B. **(LWCF)** Encourage renovations that use Universal Design, environmentally friendly designs, reduce long-term expenses, or cost less to maintain (e.g. native vegetation, energy efficient materials, etc.).
- C. Continue to estimate the existing backlog of projects at a statewide level through a software program called Fixed Asset Resource Maintenance System (FARMS).
- D. Educate the public on present funding mechanisms of State Parks (e.g. provide information about status of self-funding of parks on DRED website).

Progress:

- SB5

Comments

- Prioritize renovations;
- See SB5 Commission recommendations
- Applies to State Parks – DRED – collects all of this

- II. Objective:** Continue to provide renovation/refurbishment funding to improve local land and water based recreational facilities/areas.

Strategies

- A. **(LWCF)** Give priority to projects that have an operations and maintenance plan and have shown sound stewardship on existing facilities.

Comment: Why would they need refurbishment money if showed good stewardship in the first place? Facilities wear out even with good stewardship and some facilities just need to be expanded based on population growth and usage.

- B. **(LWCF)** Give priority to projects that use Universal Design, environmentally friendly designs, reduce long-term expenses, or cost less to maintain (e.g. native vegetation, energy efficient materials, etc.).

Comments

- Give priority to organizations that receive grants
- Fish & Game public access program

- III. Objective:** Continue to provide acquisition funding to support new local land and water based recreational lands/facilities.

Strategies

- A. **(LWCF)** Give priority to projects that have been specifically identified in local or regional plans.

- B. **(LWCF)** Continue to give priority to communities that have had less benefit from LWCF funding in the past.
- C. **(LWCF)** Give priority to projects that use Universal Design, environmentally friendly designs, reduce long-term expenses, or cost less to maintain (e.g. native vegetation, energy efficient materials, etc.).
- D. **(LWCF)** Give priority to projects that consider stewardship costs in new projects and initiatives.
- E. **(LWCF)** Consider methods of giving priority to projects with a higher level of use, even in low population areas (e.g. OEP will consider possible methods and provide suggestions to DRED and the OPSP Advisory Panel for review).

Progress:

- Fish and Game continues to administer the Land Owners Incentive Program.
- And, the Small Grants Program
- At all of its sites and funded sites F&G requires public access.
- If it weren't for volunteers, a trail system would not exist at the local level.
- ? Beth Lambert-volunteers in the coastal program.
- The Quabbin to Cardigan Trail program is a good example of planning and cooperation.

Comments:

- Conservation Easements should require more flexible terms for allowing public access;
- Need to encourage business partners such as Timberland;
- Enlist the National Student Conservation Program-contact Mary Ann Fortesque;
- Continue providing acquisition funding to support local efforts
- Demonstrated through LWCF grants;
- We need legislation to implement dedicated fees to non-motorized recreational use of our resources.

IV. Objective: Encourage leaders to support financing *and implementation* of local, regional, and statewide plans for open space, recreation trails, and greenways.

Strategies

- A. Educate the public about the benefits of open space, recreation trails, and greenways (e.g. Dollars and Sense of Open Space, economic impacts of trails in communities, etc).
- B. Investigate expanding efforts of the Regional Environmental Planning Program (REPP) through the Regional Planning Commissions.
- C. Encourage *local and state* public/private financing of these efforts (*e.g. LCHIP, ETC*).

Progress:

- Both DRED and F&G have web-based location of access sites.
- (These sites need to be available in hard copy also.)
- DES Coastal Program?
- SPNHF provides some educational programs

Comments:

- Enforcement of laws funded through public use based fee related to the various activities;
- Dollars and Sense of Open Space
- Cooperative Extension Community Profiles
- LCHIP
- Need public support
- Add to C – local and statewide conservation
- Don't concentrate on just statewide

- Focus on implementation on statewide and local plans
- A “resource directory” of all resources should be compiled and made available to the public.
 - A UNH student could do this.
 - Ski areas have a directory but it only includes gee resorts
 - State Parks has a directory
 - The Trails Advisory Groups is a resource.
 - Need to identify barrier free resources
- I endorse RPCs including natural resources in their planning considerations. I would like to see more connections between RPCs and statewide effort. My sense of RPCs is they do a great job of focusing on their clientele (towns) needs, but aren’t as good connecting with state organizations and agencies. Natural resources/environmental considerations don’t respect political boundaries and I think RPCs need to have a different way of operating when it comes to the connecting with groups that go beyond their borders.
- It is good we have LCHIP, but we need more \$

V. Objective: Promote the importance of collaboration and volunteerism in developing and maintaining local recreation projects.

Strategies

- (LWCF)** Give priority to projects that show local partnerships and commitment to not only developing but also maintaining land and water-based recreational facilities.
- Promote volunteerism with school-aged youth in communities (e.g. boys and girls clubs, Americorps, scouts, *university interns, Vista volunteer programs*, etc.).

Comments

- Promote collaborations...local recreation projects
- Always will be important
- Statewide Trail would not exist without volunteers
- Corporations-like Timberland
- Could have higher points/incentives for communities with greater numbers of collaborators or volunteers – helps their match through Coastal Program
- Importance of connecting trails, i.e. Quabbin to Cardigan Trails
- Student conservation association based in Charlestown, NH
- Municipal recreation departments use youth volunteers for projects and use adults as volunteers with school aged youth.

VI. Objective: ~~Explore the possibility of i-~~ **Implement** voluntary, dedicated user fees for other recreational uses.

Or

Work on implementing dedicated user fees for other recreational uses, such as non-motorized trail funds.

Strategies:

- Educate the public and recreational users about possible benefits of user fee programs and about how money generated from fee programs would be used (e.g. proper fund management would mean that money would go towards supporting the specific recreational use).
- Review successful programs from other states.*
- Consider legislation*

Comment:

- How successful is the National Forest Service Program?
- Fish and Game
- Take out the “voluntary”

- Legislative initiatives about non-motorized user fees
- Work on implementing fees

SELECTED CONTACTS & INFORMATION SOURCES

- **DRED – Division of Parks and Recreation** (www.nhparks.state.nh.us/)
- **DRED - Division of Forests and Lands** (www.nhdfl.org/)
- **New Hampshire Fish and Game Department** (www.wildlife.state.nh.us/)
- **The New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions** (www.nhacc.org/nhacc.htm)
- **New Hampshire Department of Transportation – TE Program**
(www.state.nh.us/dot/municipalhighways/tehome.htm)
- **New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services** (www.des.state.nh.us/)
- **New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning** (www.nh.gov/oep)
- **New Hampshire Charitable Foundation** (www.nhcf.org/)
- **Volunteer NH** (www.volunteernh.org)
- **Appalachian Mountain Club** (www.outdoors.org)
- **New Hampshire Recreation Planners Association** (www.nhrpa.com)
- **Bureau of Trails** (www.nhtrails.org)

4. **EDUCATION OF RECREATIONAL USERS, MUNICIPALITIES AND LANDOWNERS ABOUT RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR, LAWS, AND LIABILITY**

GOAL: *Improve and increase educational opportunities and outreach targeted to ~~both~~**all** recreation providers and **all** recreational users.*

- I. Objective:** Educate landowners about the benefits of leaving lands open to the public and the liability protections provided by existing laws

Strategies:

- A. Produce and promote a standard statewide brochure about landowner rights and liability protection that would be made available through multiple agencies and organizations (e.g. involve Attorney General's office, State agencies, non-profit organizations).
- B. Target messages to a diverse audience (e.g. realtors, outdoor recreation clubs, condo associations, etc.).
- C. Hold a statewide symposium to promote benefits of keeping private lands open to the public and build awareness of existing liability protections.
- D. ~~Evaluate the feasibility of developing a statewide GIS map and database of lands under Current Use, including those that receive the 20 percent recreation adjustment.~~ Comment: Many landowners do not support their lands being on public a map or database.

Comment:

- This is a very long-term strategy, given the level of the technology at the local level. While it is not possible at this time, it will be feasible in the future.
- Educate landowners

- II. Objective:** Educate municipalities on *their* liability issues and *their* municipal rights *and obligations to close town-owned land for public use* related to recreational use.

Strategies:

- A. Work with the municipal insurance providers to develop a municipal workshop explaining legal rights related to recreational use and municipal liability (e.g. municipal law lecture series, NHACC annual meeting, *New Hampshire Local Government Center*).
- B. OEP should update the local guide to recreation financing and include legislative information about liability and recreational use.

Comments

- Expand educational programs
- STAC: re: trails
- There has been a decrease/less funding for education – negative progress
- NH Mushers – new
- NH Horse council – more active
- Greater need not – more people need education
- Much information is already available
- Need a coordinated web education program

- III. Objective:** Expand education programs aimed at recreationists targeting responsible behavior, environmental ethics, and knowledge of existing laws and penalties.

Strategies:

- A. Establish a statewide clearinghouse of recreation-based education information and utilize a variety of media and methods to disseminate information (e.g. TV, radio, point of sale, brochures, water access sites, trail-

head information, *Institute for NH Studies, Center for the Environment, UNH Cooperative Extension Service, Northern Forest Center, Statewide Trails Advisory Committee, etc.*).

- B. Encourage local recreation and conservation groups to play a leadership role in presenting education programs (e.g. lakes associations, trail groups, land trusts).
- C. Increase use of existing campaigns/programs such as *Tread Lightly, Leave No Trace, Carry In/Carry Out* (e.g. target retailers as well as recreation and conservation groups).
- D. Incorporate responsible use messages into school and youth programs (e.g. involve service organizations, such as Rotary and Lions Clubs, to help deliver messages to boy/girl scouts and other youth groups).
- E. Build capacity of outdoor recreational organizations to provide peer education.

Progress:

- STAC
- The landowner relations program and landowner incentive programs at F&G.
- Promotion along with HIKE-SAFE - Fish and Game and US Forest Service.
- 4-H gone Wild
- OHRV Education Programs; Hunter Education; Aquatic Resources Education.

Comments:

- A. The information is out there, but it is not effectively coordinated. It needs to be in one place.
- More and more people are looking for the information on-line;
- Educate municipalities on their liability issues and their municipal rights and obligations;
- Contact Local Government Center
- Change OSP to OEP;
- I don't think a statewide brochure about landowner rights and liability protection exists, but I would help write one-Karen Bennett (UNH).
- I don't know if there has been an increase use, but these campaigns are effective when used.

IV. Objective: ~~Promote education-based strategies to m~~ Minimize *the need for* enforcement and use restrictions *by promoting education-based strategies.*

Strategies

- A. Address user conflicts and safety issues through education and outreach efforts focused on responsible use (e.g. New Hampshire Snowmobile Association, AMC, White Mountain National Forest, etc.).
- B. Involve stakeholders in discussions about use concerns and potential conflicts early on in the process.
- C. Encourage outdoor recreation and conservation organizations to conduct monitoring, volunteer patrols, trail watches (e.g. lakes associations, OHRV clubs, Upper Valley Trails Alliance, etc.).

Progress:

- F&G has worked very successfully with Laconia and Orford to establish much needed water access sites in these communities. Progress has been accelerated because of the excellent working relationship between the communities and the state agencies.
- While progress is sluggish on Lake Sunapee site, the state agencies continue to meet and talk with the communities in an attempt to iron out the differences.

Comments:

- A permanent revenue stream is required to meet identified needs;
- Minimize the need for enforcement and use restrictions by promoting education-based strategies.
- A few years ago we held a workshop on ATVs and attendees were generally dismayed at the lack of assistance and protection offered by the state against such a hard use of their land. ATVs and other OHRVs will result in more and more private lands being posted.

SELECTED CONTACTS & INFORMATION SOURCES

- **Appalachian Mountain Club** (www.outdoors.org)
- **DRED – Trails Bureau** ((www.nhtrails.org) - also provides links to many trail clubs
- **New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services** (www.des.state.nh.us/)
- **New Hampshire Fish and Game Department** (www.wildlife.state.nh.us/)
- **New Hampshire Department of Safety** (www.webster.state.nh.us/safety/)
- **New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning** (www.nh.gov/oep/)
- **Volunteer NH** (www.volunteernh.org/)
- **New Hampshire Charitable Foundation** (www.nhcf.org/)
- **New Hampshire Lakes Association** (www.nhlakes.org/)
- **New Hampshire Local Government Center** (www.nhlgc.org)
- **University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension**
- **New Hampshire Recreation Planners Association** (www.nhrpa.com)

5. IMPACTS OF EXISTING LAND USE PATTERNS ON RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

GOAL: *Promote growth and development patterns that encourage local recreational opportunities and preserves undeveloped lands for future recreational use.*

- I. Objective:** ~~Incorporate outdoor recreation more fully as an issue~~ *Integrate outdoor recreation* within larger discussions of ‘smart growth’.

Strategies:

- A. Develop statewide, regional, and local partnerships between recreation planning efforts and those related to land use, transportation, and health (e.g. NH Celebrates Wellness, DOT, OEP, DRED, DHR).
- ~~B. Support reauthorization of a federal transportation bill that continues or expands upon Safe TE LU in its support of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. DONE~~
- C. Emphasize to communities the benefits of conducting natural resource inventories and developing conservation/open space plans as part of larger community planning efforts.
- D. Broaden enabling legislation for impact fees that would expand allowable uses to include open space and recreation infrastructure.
- E. Improve cross-links between the land use, open space, cultural and historic resources, transportation, and recreation chapters of local master plans (e.g. encourage communities to include a key at the end of each chapter explaining links with other chapters).
- F. Promote interagency coordination to address regional recreation, trail and open space needs (e.g. explore expanding the role of the Statewide Trails Advisory Committee in addressing regional trail needs).
- G. Encourage Regional Planning Commissions to coordinate and develop multi-community recreation and open space plans (e.g. Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission open space and trail planning assistance).
- H. Improve upon existing references to recreation in state statutes (e.g. OEP will work to revise reference to recreation in RSA 674:2).

Progress:

- DOT has hired a Safe Routes to school Coordinator, funded through the reauthorized transportation bill SAFETEA LU (Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users).
- *Wildlife Action Plan* - Maps and Training
- A lot of these have been done by towns and also regional entities such as Breen Mountain Conservation Group, the Piscataquog River Association, Ashuelot Watershed Plan (TNC), NROC, etc.

- II. Objective:** ~~Promote~~ *Encourage* local development that is sensitive to protecting and enhancing local land and water-based recreation and natural and cultural resource protection opportunities.

Strategies:

- A. (LWCF) Give priority to projects that provide community linkages/improve connectivity (e.g. *trails*, bicycle/pedestrian linkages between residences, boat access, recreational fields, schools, library, etc.).
- B. (LWCF) Give priority to land acquisition projects that protect resources most threatened by land use changes.

- C. Support efforts to create local, ~~and~~ regional **and statewide** networks of trails and greenways (e.g. Winnepesaukee River Trail, Sunapee Ragged Kearsarge Greenway, etc).
- D. Support efforts that link community resources via trails and improve the overall connectivity of trails (Derry Pathways, etc.).
- E. Better incorporate open space and trails planning efforts into local and regional planning and land use decisions.
- F. Develop a joint education program targeted towards recreation departments, conservation commissions, and other appropriate boards focused on building awareness of the linkages between recreation and conservation.
- G. Promote “Walk to School” and other “Walk to” or “Ride to” programs.

Progress:

- CELCP
- Safe Routes to School
- Health Promotion Program
- There is a lot of activity within towns to locate and map recreational trails. I don’t think there is one place to find this information

III. Objective: Educate communities about the importance and economic/non-economic benefits of local, close to home recreational opportunities.

Strategies:

- A. Educate the public about the economic value of recreational opportunities in local communities (e.g. education and outreach efforts focused on promoting the values of trails, clean surface water, open space, and non-motorized travel within a community etc.).
- B. Identify and promote existing strategies that successfully integrate recreation resource protection and community economic development.
- C. *Community character, social, cultural and quality of life issues – value of trails close to home.*

SELECTED CONTACTS & INFORMATION SOURCES

- **New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning** (www.nh.gov/oep)
- **New Hampshire Department of Transportation – Bicycle/Pedestrian Program** (www.webster.state.nh.us/dot/nhbikeped/)
- **Regional Planning Commissions** (www.nh.gov/oep/resourcelibrary/regions.home.htm)
- **New Hampshire Charitable Foundation** (www.nhcf.org/)
- **New Hampshire Main Street Program** (www.nhcdfa.org/mainstreet.html)
- **Appalachian Mountain Club** (www.outdoors.org)
- **New Hampshire Local Government Center** (www.nhlgc.org)
- **New Hampshire Minimum Impact Development Partnership** (www.nhmid.org/)
- **Smart Growth Network** (www.smartgrowth.org/default.asp)
- **New Hampshire Recreation Planners Association** (www.nhrpa.com)

6. **IMPORTANCE OF LOCAL OUTDOOR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES AND OPEN SPACE PROTECTION IN PROMOTING INCREASED HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

GOAL: *Promote health/wellness benefits gained from improving recreational opportunities and bicycle and pedestrian linkages in communities.*

I. Objective: Broaden and strengthen partnerships.

Strategies:

- A. Build connections with the NH Department of Transportation, local public works departments, and local boards to promote bicycling and pedestrian connectivity and non-motorized transportation networks.
- B. Focus health/wellness education and outreach efforts on local recreation providers (e.g. target recreation directors, recreation commissions, and involve Governors Council on Physical Education, Department of Education, Healthy Communities Foundation, etc.).
- C. Promote local participation in statewide health promotion and education activities (e.g. ~~breast cancer walks~~, March into May, Great American Smoke Out, Great American Work Out).
- D. Partner with hospitals, local wellness teams, and schools to coordinate education efforts and develop cross-promotion efforts.

II. Objective: Increase public awareness of access and opportunities for recreation and physical activity locally.

Strategies:

- A. Cross promote health programs as aspects of other initiatives and incorporate physical activity within other organizations' activities (e.g. establish historic walking tours in conjunction with the local historical society or historic commission).
- B. Work with business and industries to promote understanding of the importance of recreational opportunities for employee health (e.g. Business and Industry Association, etc.).
- C. Develop statewide database (web site) that lists ideas and programs that have been successful.
Comment: Who will maintain and fund this? Probably not feasible as a project.

III. Objective: Consider special needs of youth, elderly and disabled populations in promoting health and wellness through outdoor recreation.

Strategies:

- A. Improve existing and new recreation areas by enhancing non-motorized (bicycle/pedestrian) accessibility and connectivity. Non-motorized access is particularly important to youth, elderly and disabled populations.
- B. Encourage lifetime recreation and physical activity curriculum in school programs (e.g. bicycling, walking, etc.).
- C. Encourage the Department of Resources and Economic Development and the Fish and Game Department to develop long-term disability plans for public lands and implement universal designs.

IV. Objective: Promote health and wellness messages in existing recreation areas.

Strategies:

- A. Encourage the State and communities to adopt no-smoking policies in high-density recreation areas (e.g. State and community parks), and emphasize awareness of cigarette butts as litter).
- B. Encourage health food concession alternatives at parks and sporting events (e.g. beaches, swimming pools, football games, etc.).
- C. Encourage communities to post the health benefits of physical activity in existing recreation areas (e.g. post health messages and mileage markers along a town pathway or trail).
- D. Encourage use of appropriate equipment in parks (e.g. as of July 2005 use of helmets by youths in skate parks is a statute requirement, etc.).
- E. Encourage parks to promote safe playground standards.

Progress:

- Upper Valley Trails Alliance
- Safe Routes to School
- Kids Power-Health Promotion
- CDBG-Main Street Program
- SAFETE LU money for bike/ped projects
- Hospital Health Promotion Programs
- Bike/Walk Alliance
- Injury Prevention Center at Dartmouth Medical Center
- Bicycle racks on buses
- Helmets are required on children under 16 years of age who are riding bicycles.
- Bicycling trails and pedestrian walks are just beginning to catch the public attention in Seacoast area. Town have only recently begun to establish trails committees.
- Children and Outdoor Initiative – F&G
- The local hospitals and universities appear to be most active in this area.
- NHRPA is addressing obesity issue and including prevention in workshops and conferences and encouraging recreation agencies to take pre-active steps such as including fitness in summer programs, encouraging healthy snacks, etc. Their national organization has partnered with Physical Educators, YMCA's and others in promoting anti-obesity legislation at the national level. NHRPA lobbied for these efforts. NHRPA takes a pro-active role in the push for LWCF to encourage the development of outdoor park and recreation facilities so people have a place to exercise and play.
- NH Alliance for Health Physical Education Recreation and Dance.
- Local Government Center
- Archery in the School and Let's Go Fishing – F&G
- Municipal Recreation Directors have been educated about (safety). NHPA has hosted certified playground inspector schools in NH and New England. Primex and Local Government Center Risk Managers are certified in this area. Recreation Dept.'s with full time professional administrators use reputable playground equipment companies for installation and repair. There is always room for improvement, however. Concerns are in communities where there are not full time, professional directors and facilities are run by volunteers. Also not all schools have had the same education process municipal recreation departments have.

Comments:

- The helmet law needs to be posed at the local level.
- Bike and Pedestrian conferences held by DOT to encourage walking and cycling. Easing up of the restriction preventing the work recreation to be used in transportation enhancement grants.

- Many local recreation departments have partnered with schools, hospitals, etc. in providing wellness activities.
- The Lamprey River Advisory Committee is designing/building a 30-mile interpretive (historic, wildlife, canoeing/kayaking) bike tour of the wild and scenic segment of the Lamprey.
- There are emerging programs in which towns are just beginning to plan and link up local conservation lands, town forests, rail trails, state lands, etc. into contiguous hiking/biking, x-country skiing trails.
- From observation, there is a good public awareness of the risks of brain injury and helmets are in wide spread use particularly within the younger generations.

SELECTED CONTACTS & INFORMATION SOURCES

- **New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services** (www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/DHHS_SITE/default.htm)
- **University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension** (www.ceinfo.unh.edu)
- **US Department of Health and Human Services** (www.hhs.gov/)
- **US Centers for Disease Control** (www.cdc.gov/)
- **Appalachian Mountain Club** (www.outdoors.org/)
- **New Hampshire Recreation Planners Association** (www.nhrpa.com)

December 15, 2006 SCORP Public Advisory Committee Forum, Attendees

Susan Arnold	Appalachian Mountain Club
Phil Auger	UNH Cooperative Extension
Patti Baum	DHHS
Karen Bennet	UNH State Extension Specialist
Emily Brunkhurst	NH Fish & Game
Joshua Carroll	UNH Dept of Recreation Management & Policy
Bruce Clendenning	AMC
Ann Davis	Public, Town of Wilmot
Alice DeSouza	DRED, Travel and Tourism
Tim Drew	DES, Water Resources
Susan Francher	DRED, Forests and Lands
Michele Gagne	UNH Cooperative Extension, Community Specialist
Chris Gamache	DRED, Bureau of Trails
Gladi Hartford	Granite State Independent Living
Gail Hanson	NH Snowmobile Association
Cheryl Killam	Granite State Independent Living
Donna Kuethe	Moultonborough Recreation Department
Beth Lambert	DES, Watershed Bureau
Roger Lohr	Human Powered Winter Sports
Johanna Lyons	DRED, Parks
Jayne O'Connor	White Mountains Attractions
Mark O'Krant	Plymouth State University
Jack Ruderman	Office of Energy and Planning
Dan Reidy	UNHEC
Judy Silverberg	NH Fish & Game
Rep. Judith Spang	House of Representative, Resources, Recreation & Development